# Theoretical overview of low X physics with eA at an EIC

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# Aspects of low X physics with eA at an EIC

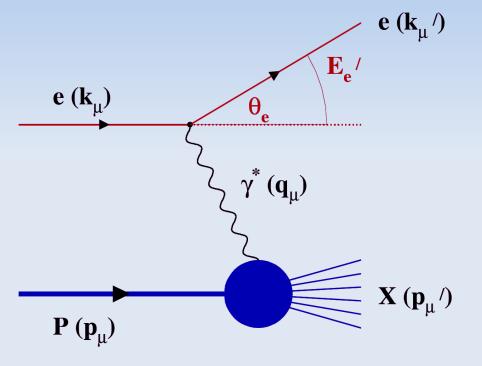
#### Probing extreme QCD:

unitarity, universality, strong color fields

Connection to heavy ion physics at RHIC/LHC

# A hadron at small x

# **DIS:** $e p \rightarrow e X$

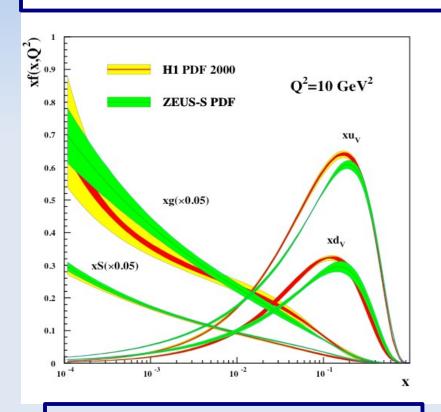


$$\mathbf{x} = rac{\mathbf{p}^ op}{\mathbf{P}^+}$$
 ;

is the fraction of hadron energy carried by a parton

#### HERA:

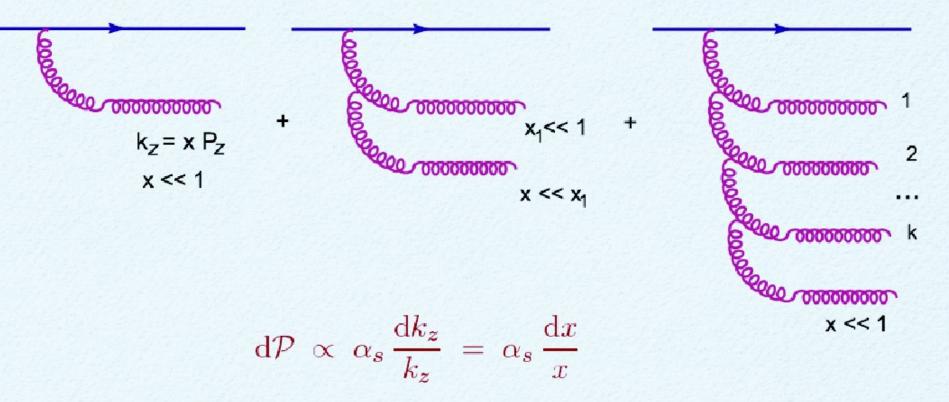
there are a lot of gluons at small x



Q2 evolution of PDF's: DGLAP

# gluon radiation at small x :pQCD

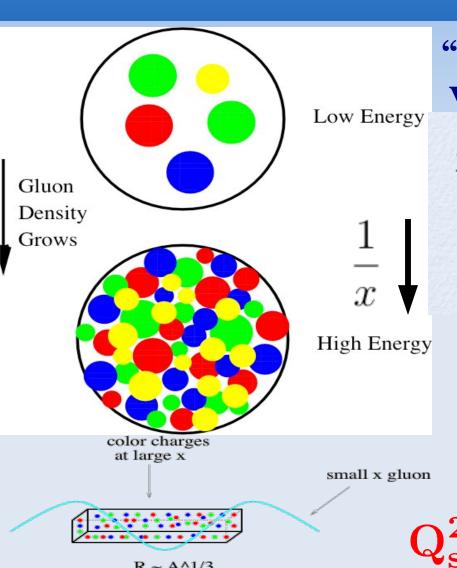
The infrared sensitivity of bremsstrahlung favors the emission of 'soft' (= small-x) gluons



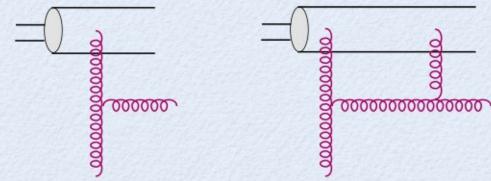
The 'price' of an additional gluon:

$$\mathcal{P}(1) \propto lpha_s \int_x^1 rac{\mathrm{d} x_1}{x_1} = lpha_s \ln rac{1}{x} \quad n$$
 number of gluons grows fast  $n \sim e^{lpha_s \ln 1/x}$ 

# Gluon saturation



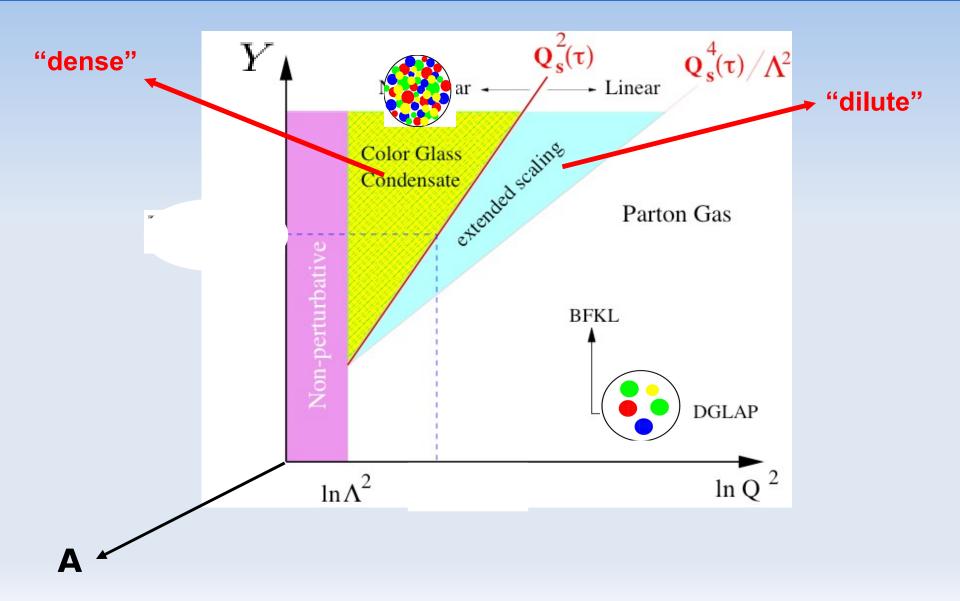
"attractive" bremsstrahlung vs. "repulsive" recombination



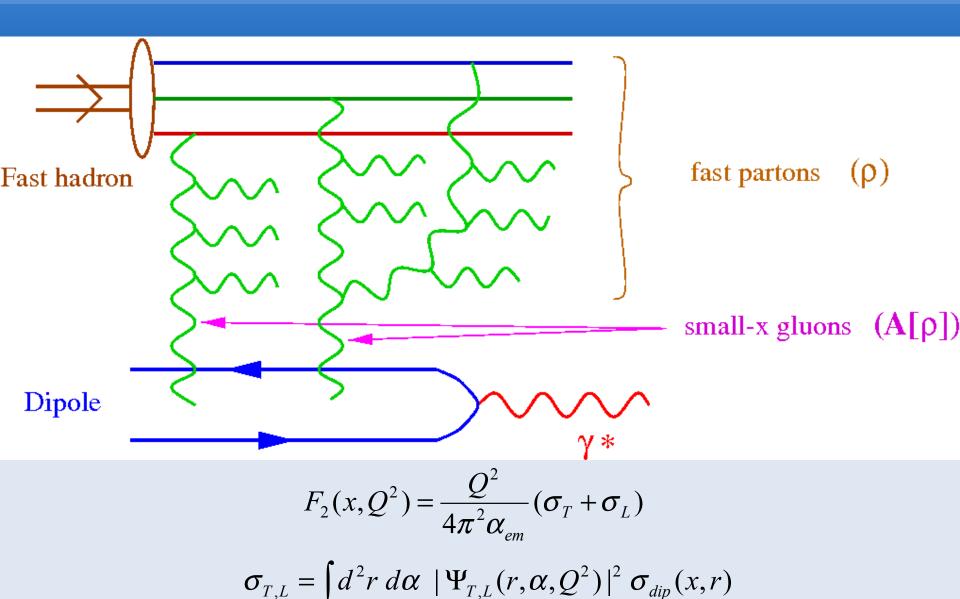
$$rac{lpha_{\mathbf{s}}\,\mathbf{x}\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{b_t},\mathbf{Q^2})}{\mathbf{S_\perp}\,\mathbf{Q^2}}\sim\mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{Q_s^2}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b_t}, \mathbf{A}) \sim \mathbf{A^{1/3}} \, (\frac{1}{\mathbf{x}})^{\mathbf{0.3}}$$

# Road Map of QCD Phase Space



# DIS at small X: structure functions



# **BK** equation

$$\frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{d}\mathbf{y}} < \mathbf{Tr} \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{x}}^{\dagger} \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{y}} > = -\frac{\bar{\alpha}_{\mathbf{s}}}{2\pi} \int \mathbf{d}^{2}\mathbf{z} \, \frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})^{2}}{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z})^{2}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})^{2}} \times$$

$$igg[ < {
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m V}_{f x}^\dagger \, {
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m V}_{f x}^\dagger \, {
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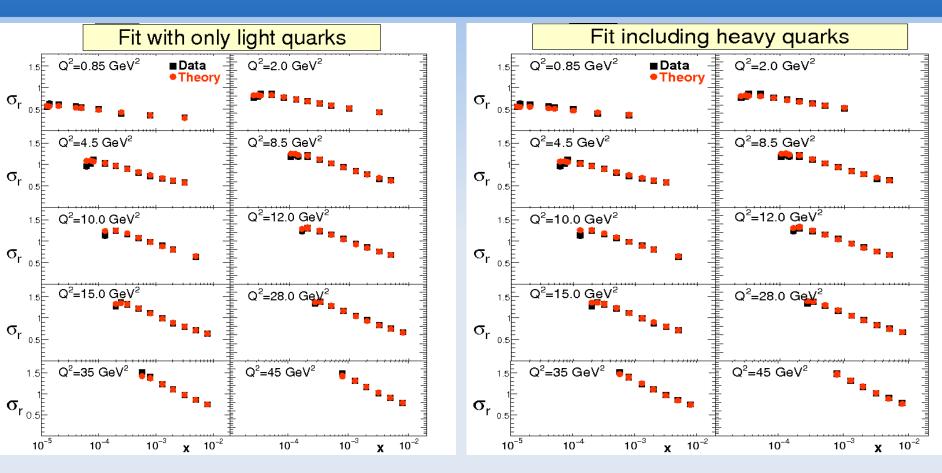
$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{y_t},\mathbf{z_t}) \equiv rac{1}{N_c} < \mathrm{Tr}\,\mathbf{V_y^\dagger}\,\mathbf{V_z} >$$

Output: Modified evolution kernel:

$$\Rightarrow \text{ Leading order:} \qquad \frac{\partial S(\underline{x},\underline{y};Y)}{\partial Y} = \int d^2z \; K^{LO}(\underline{r},\underline{r_1},\underline{r_2}) \; \left[S(\underline{x},\underline{z}) \; S(\underline{z},\underline{y}) - S(\underline{x},\underline{y})\right] \\ \Rightarrow \text{ Running coupling:} \qquad \frac{\partial S(\underline{x},\underline{y};Y)}{\partial Y} = \int d^2z \; \tilde{K}(\underline{r},\underline{r_1},\underline{r_2}) \; \left[S(\underline{x},\underline{z}) \; S(\underline{z},\underline{y}) - S(\underline{x},\underline{y})\right]$$

NLO: B-KW-G-BC (2007-2008)

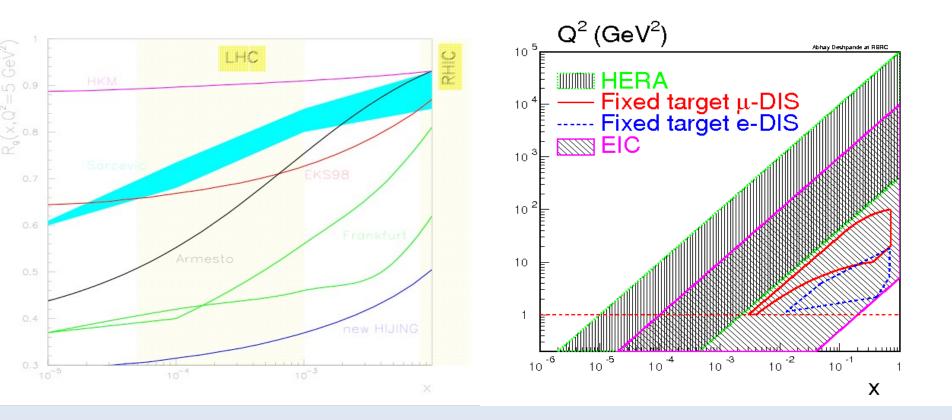
## Structure functions at HERA



*AAMQS*(2010)

PQCD: DGLAP-based approaches also "work": need more discriminatory observables

### **Nuclear structure functions at EIC**

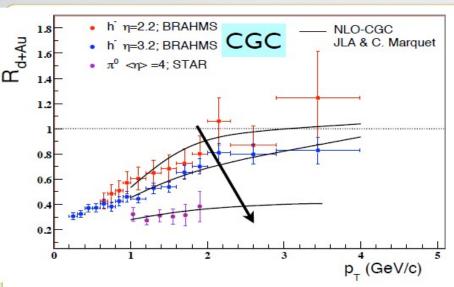


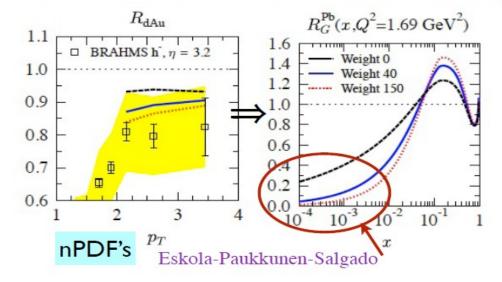
Nuclear parton (gluon) distributions are poorly known: severe consequences for RHIC/LHC

#### RHIC d+Au data at forward rapidity



$$x_{1(2)} \sim \frac{m_t}{\sqrt{s}} \exp(\pm y_h)$$





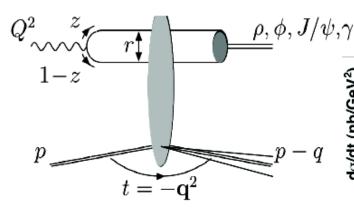
 Forward suppression predicted and well described in the CGC framework in terms of non-linear running coupling BK evolution  nPDF's description of forward suppression involves a huge nuclear shadowing at small-x

How about cold matter energy loss?

Breakdown of LT pQCD (DGLAP)?

Diffractive structure functions:  $[xg(x,Q^2)]^2$ SIDIS: intrinsic gluon distribution function Diffractive vector meson production: impact parameter dependence

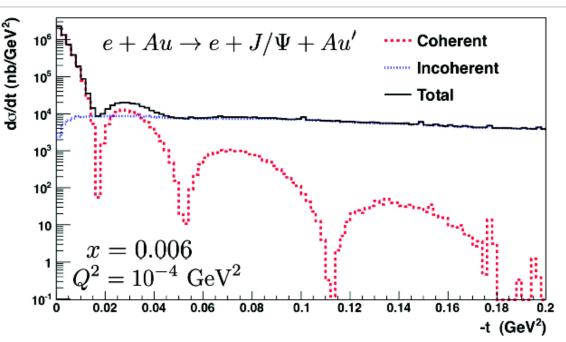
# Diffractive vector meson production



as a function of t

exclusive production (coherent): the target undergoes elastic scattering, dominates at small |t|

→ steep exp. fall at small |t|



target dissociation (incoherent): the target undergoes inelastic scattering, dominates at large |t|

breakup into the nucleons

→ slower exp. fall at 0.02 < -t < 0.7 GeV<sup>2</sup>

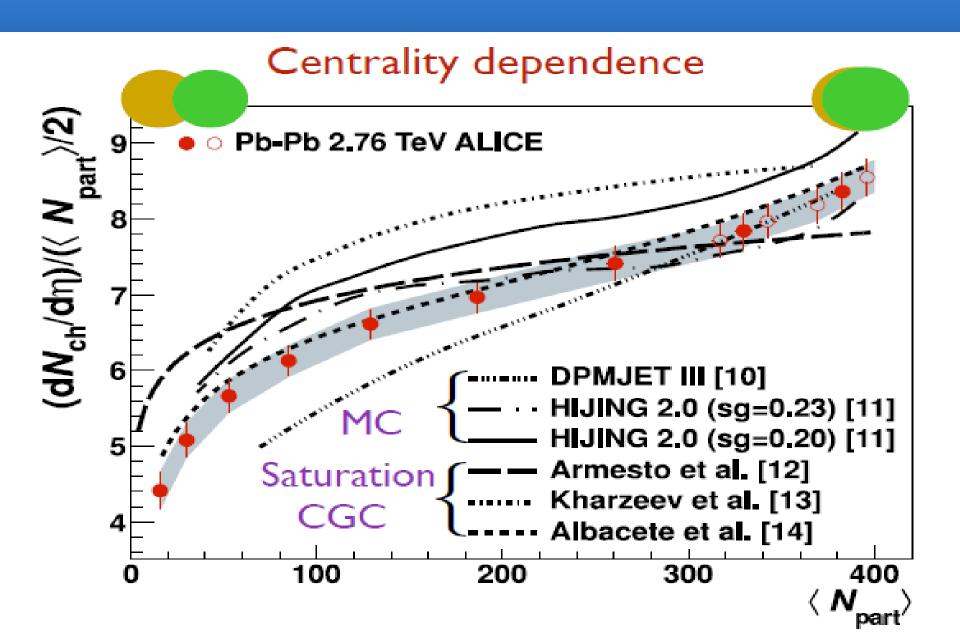
breakup of the nucleons

→ power-law tail at large |t|

Toll and Ullrich (2011)

Fourier transform of t dependence gives the <u>impact parameter</u> profile of target

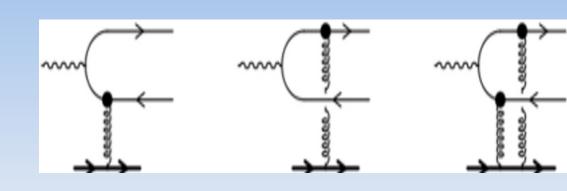
# Impact parameter in AA collisions



# Di-jet production: DIS

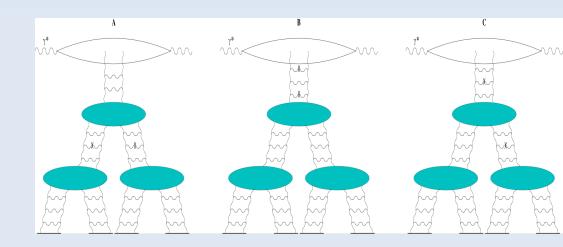
$$\gamma^{\star} \, \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{A}) \to \mathbf{q} \, \mathbf{\bar{q}} \, \mathbf{X}$$

FG & JJM, PRD67 (2003) DMXY (2011)



$$\gamma^{\star} \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{A}) \to \mathbf{g} \mathbf{g} \mathbf{X}$$

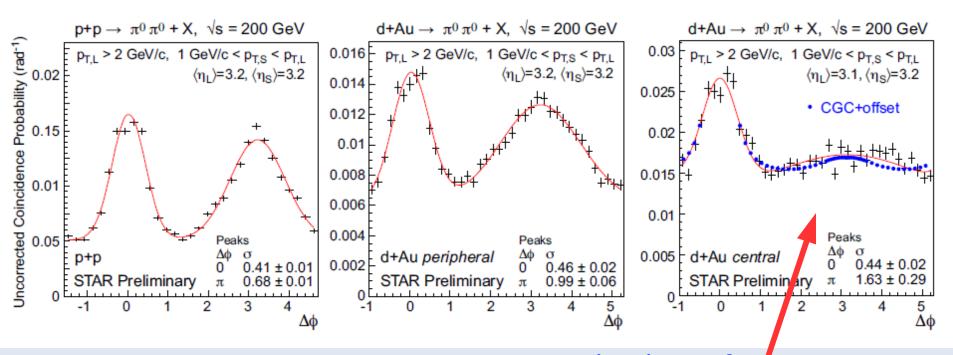
JJM & YK, PRD70 (2004) AK & ML, JHEP (2006)



di-jet production in DIS probes multi-gluon correlations

# disappearance of back to back jets

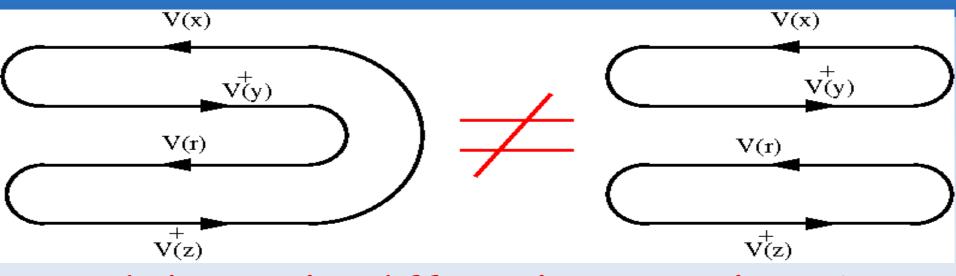
Recent STAR measurement (arXiv:1008.3989v1):



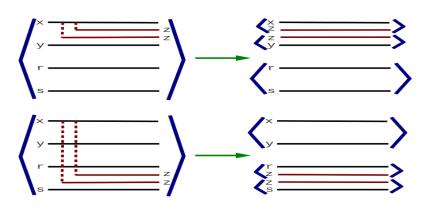
Albacete + Marquet, PRL (2010), Tuchin, NPA846 (2010) multiple soft scatterings de-correlate the hadrons

multi-gluon correlations-transverse profile of nucleus: need to go beyond single parton distributions (quadrupoles rather than dipoles)

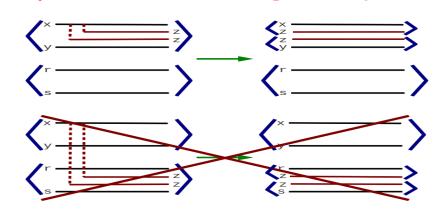
# Quadrupoles vs. dipoles



and they evolve differently even at large N<sub>c</sub>

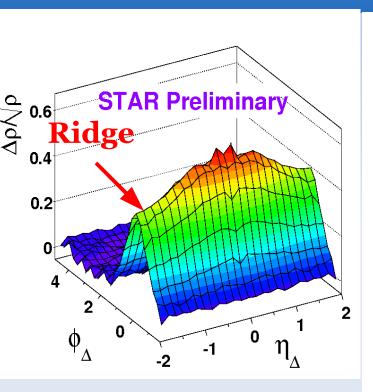




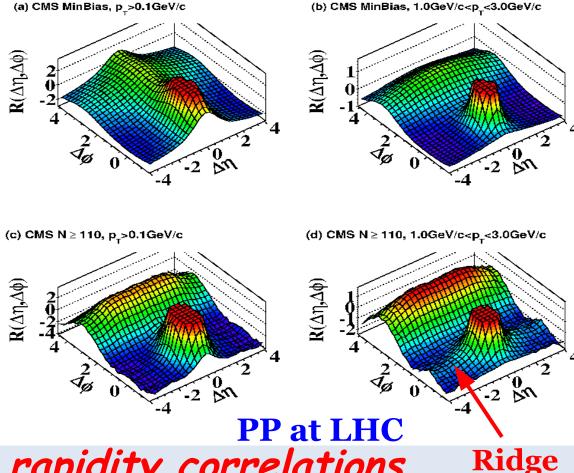


Dipole approximation

# The Ridge



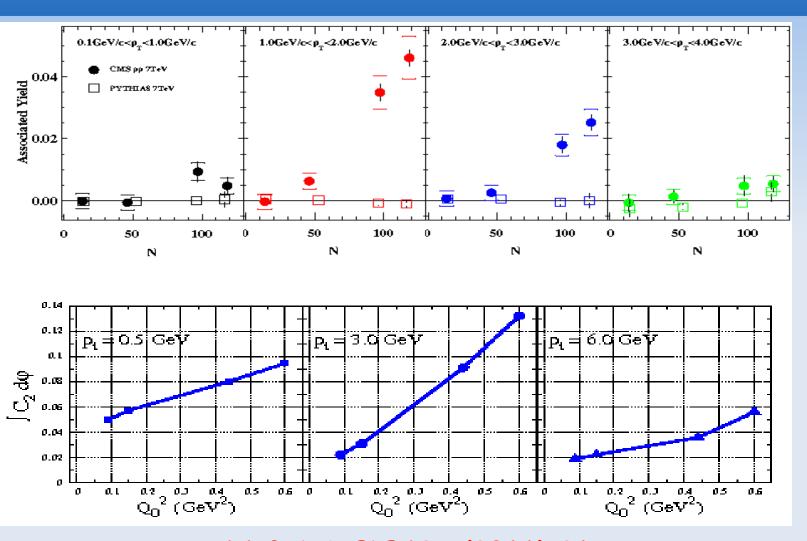
**AA at RHIC** 



long-range rapidity correlations

multi-gluon correlations in the nucleus: need to go beyond single parton distributions

# The CMS ridge at LHC



DDGJLV, PLB697 (2011) 21

# The role of initial conditions

McLerran-Venugopalan (93) 
$$<\mathbf{O}(
ho)> \equiv \int \mathbf{D}[
ho]\,\mathbf{O}(
ho)\,\mathbf{W}[
ho]$$

$$\mathbf{W}[\rho] \simeq \mathbf{e}^{-\int \mathbf{d^2} \mathbf{x_t} \frac{\rho^{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x_t}) \rho^{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x_t})}{2 \mu^2}} \qquad \mu^2 \equiv \frac{\mathbf{g^2 A}}{\mathbf{S_\perp}}$$

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{y_t},\mathbf{z_t}) \equiv rac{1}{N_c} < \mathrm{Tr}\,\mathbf{V_y^\dagger}\,\mathbf{V_z} > \sim\, \mathrm{e}^{-\#\,(\mathbf{y_t}-\mathbf{z_t})^2\,\mathbf{Q_s^2}}$$

how about higher order terms in  $\rho$ ?

$$\mathbf{W}[\rho] \simeq e^{-\int d^2 x_t \left[ \frac{\rho^{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x_t})}}{2\,\mu^2} - \frac{d^{\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}\,\rho^{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x_t})}}}{\kappa_3} + \frac{F^{\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{d}\,\rho^{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x_t})\rho^{\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x_t})}}}{\kappa_4}} \right]}$$

these higher order terms may make the spectra steeper and give leading N<sub>c</sub> correlations (ridge)

AD+JJM+EP, in progress

# Low x in eA at an EIC: extreme QCD

# A new region of QCD phase space: CGC

 $Q_s$ : a dynamical semi-hard scale

multiplicities, spectra, correlations

low x physics at RHIC (forward rapidity) and LHC in pp, pA and AA collisions

EIC will enable us to probe new aspects of low x physics in nuclei with precision